



Weekly Crop & Weather Roundup



Cooperating with the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture

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Week Ending July 14, 2013

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This report can be found on the Internet at www.nass.usda.gov/pa and click on "Pennsylvania Publications."

Good Week for Field Work: Pennsylvania had an average of 4 days suitable for field work. Most days consisted of clouds with some sun and thunderstorms spread out across different portions of the state. After several weeks with lots of rain some areas started to dry out while other areas received more rain. Many fields are still too wet that cutting alfalfa, timothy and clover are falling behind schedule. Wheat harvest is slowly underway but again the wet fields and threats of rain each day made it hard for farmers to harvest anything. Other crops such as corn and soybeans are looking great as this is the perfect weather for them. Fruit crops are looking good with peach harvest starting to get underway, while it looks like the trees recovered nicely from the late May frost. The week ahead is supposed to be very hot, hazy and humid for most of the week but cooler weather should move in towards the end. This will be the first stretch of several hot days in a row this year, so we will see how the crops are affected by the change in weather. Field activities for the week included cutting alfalfa, hay and other forage; harvesting barley and wheat, harvesting peaches, side dressing fields with nitrogen and applying other fertilizer, mowing pastures, spraying herbicides and pesticides.

PA Topsoil Moisture for Week Ending July 14, 2013

| Very Short | Short | Adequate | Surplus |
|------------|---------|----------|---------|
| Percent | Percent | Percent | Percent |
| 0 | 3 | 56 | 41 |

Crop Progress: Corn is 23% silked (tasseled), which is behind progress at this time last year of 50% and the 5-year average of 31% harvested. Corn is at 62 inches in height, which is behind progress at this time last year of 66 inches but ahead of the 5-year average of 58 inches in height. Barley is 91% harvested, which is behind progress at this time last year of 99% and the 5-year average of 96% harvested. Winter wheat is 94% ripe, which is behind progress at this time last year of 97% and the 5-year average of 97% ripe. Winter wheat is 45% harvested, which is behind progress at this time last year of 93% and the 5-year average of 77% harvested. Oats are 50% yellow, which is behind progress at this time last year of 83% but ahead of the 5-year average of 49% yellow. Oats are 8% ripe, which is behind progress at this time last year of 35% and the 5-year average of 16% headed. Alfalfa second cutting is 55% cut, which is behind progress at this time last year of 93% and the 5-year average of 81% cut. Alfalfa third cutting is 13% cut, which is behind progress at this time last year of 27% and the 5-year average of 14% cut. Timothy/Clover first cutting is 93% cut, which is behind progress at this time last year of 98% and the 5-year average of 96% cut. Timothy/Clover second cutting is 7% cut, which is behind progress at this time last year of 63% and the 5-year average of 31% cut. Peaches are 7% harvested, which is behind progress at this time last year of 34% and the 5-years average of 14% harvested.

Crop Condition: Corn conditions are: 0% very poor, 2% poor, 13% fair, 51% good, and 34% excellent. Winter wheat conditions are: 2% very poor, 9% poor, 22% fair, 45% good, and 22% excellent. Oats conditions are: 0% very poor, 1% poor, 16% fair, 61% good, and 22% excellent. Soybean conditions are: 0% very poor, 0% poor, 19% fair, 65% good, and 16% excellent. Alfalfa stand conditions are: 0% very poor, 4% poor, 23% fair, 53% good, and 20% excellent. Timothy/Clover stand conditions are: 0% very poor, 2% poor, 18% fair, 64% good, and 16% excellent. Quality of Hay made conditions are: 0% very poor, 18% poor, 47% fair, 24% good and 11% excellent. Pasture conditions are: 0% very poor, 2% poor, 24% fair, 46% good

and 28% excellent. Peaches conditions are: 0% very poor, 0% poor, 20% fair, 60% good and 20% excellent. Apples conditions are: 0% very poor, 0% poor, 10% fair, 50% good and 40% excellent.

Nationwide as of July 7, 2013: Unseasonably hot weather blanketed much of the West and Northeast during the week, promoting rapid summer crop development. Elsewhere, temperatures in portions of the Tennessee and middle Mississippi Valleys averaged more than 6°F below normal. Rainfall was scattered across the country during the week, with portions of the West accumulating much-needed moisture. Similarly, areas east of the Mississippi River received beneficial rainfall. Most notably, rainfall totaling more than 4 inches fell on many Southeastern locations.

Corn: By July 7, six percent of the nation's corn crop was at or beyond the silking stage. This was 40 percentage points behind last year and 14 points behind the 5-year average. Much of the Corn Belt welcomed warmer, drier weather that boosted crop development during the week; however, portions of Iowa reported that some corn fields were beginning to show a need for additional rain. Overall, 68 percent of the corn crop was reported in good to excellent condition, up slightly from last week and 28 percentage points better than the same time last year. Soybeans: Ninety-five percent of the soybean crop had emerged by week's end, 5 percentage points behind last year and 2 points behind the 5-year average. In Illinois, warm weather—coupled with adequate soil moisture—aided crop development; however, progress continued to lag normal. Nationwide, 10 percent of the soybean crop was at or beyond the blooming stage, 32 percentage points behind last year and 14 points behind the 5-year average. Overall, 67 percent of the soybean crop was reported in good to excellent condition, unchanged from last week but 27 percentage points better than the same time last year. **Winter Wheat:** Producers had harvested 57 percent of this year's winter wheat crop by July 7, twenty-one percentage points behind last year and 7 points behind the 5-year average. In Kansas, dry weather spurred harvest in northern locations, while producers in central and southern areas finished harvesting. Elsewhere, additional rainfall in portions of the eastern Corn Belt and Southeast left producers struggling to harvest wet fields. Overall, 34 percent of the winter wheat crop was reported in good to excellent condition as harvest surpassed the halfway point, unchanged from last week. Comparison data from last year were not available due to last year's early harvest. **Other Small Grains:** By week's end, 81 percent of the oat crop was at or beyond the heading stage, 17 percentage points behind last year and 5 points behind the 5-year average. Harvest was well underway in many southern locations, while portions of Wisconsin's crop struggled developmentally due to prolonged exposure to standing water and compacted soils. Overall, 59 percent of the oat crop was reported in good to excellent condition, unchanged from last week but 4 percentage points below the same time last year. By July 7, ninety-six percent of the barley had emerged, 4 percentage points behind last year and 3 points behind the 5-year average. Above average temperatures aided crop development in North Dakota; however, progress remained well behind normal due to earlier seeding delays. Nationally, 51 percent of the barley crop was at or beyond the heading stage by week's end, 30 percentage points behind last year but on par with the 5-year average. Overall, 66 percent of the barley crop was reported in good to excellent condition, down 2 percentage points from last week but 9 points better than the same time last year.

Weather Data For Week Ending July 14, 2013

| Station | Last Week Weather Summary | | | | | | April 1 - July 14, 2013 | | | | | |
|----------------------|---------------------------|-----|---------|---------------|-------|------|-------------------------|-------|------|--------------|------|----------|
| | Temperature | | | Precipitation | | | Precipitation | | | GDD Base 50F | | Base 40F |
| | High | Low | Average | DFN | Total | Days | Total | DFN | Days | Total | DFN | Total |
| Northwest | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Erie | 88 | 60 | 73 | 3 | 0.62 | 3 | 17.70 | 5.34 | 49 | 1,336 | 283 | 2,235 |
| Franklin_AG | 86 | 57 | 72 | 3 | 1.66 | 4 | 16.64 | 2.39 | 52 | 1,311 | 300 | 2,201 |
| Meadville-Port | 84 | 57 | 72 | 4 | 0.90 | 4 | 14.09 | 0.43 | 54 | 1,342 | 427 | 2,251 |
| Clarion | 82 | 55 | 70 | 0 | 2.57 | 3 | 16.84 | 1.88 | 48 | 1,116 | 73 | 1,982 |
| Springboro | 84 | 57 | 72 | 1 | 1.74 | 3 | 19.33 | 7.14 | 48 | 1,175 | 107 | 2,039 |
| Warren | 84 | 57 | 71 | 2 | 0.54 | 4 | 12.89 | -1.45 | 54 | 1,197 | 218 | 2,075 |
| North Central | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Bradford Region | 80 | 53 | 68 | 4 | 0.41 | 3 | 12.99 | -1.57 | 54 | 1,099 | 405 | 1,973 |
| Oswayo | 83 | 51 | 69 | 4 | 0.56 | 4 | 11.39 | -2.72 | 45 | 965 | 174 | 1,796 |
| Kane | 81 | 56 | 69 | 5 | 0.42 | 3 | 17.88 | 3.25 | 50 | 930 | 244 | 1,763 |
| Laporte | 83 | 59 | 71 | 2 | 0.93 | 5 | 18.73 | 5.00 | 47 | 1,003 | -5 | 1,857 |
| Lock Haven | 89 | 60 | 73 | 3 | 2.54 | 7 | 14.51 | 1.21 | 40 | 1,347 | 263 | 2,264 |
| Coudersport_1SW | 82 | 52 | 68 | 3 | 0.49 | 3 | 12.38 | -1.73 | 52 | 953 | 162 | 1,794 |
| Renovo | 86 | 59 | 73 | 3 | 0.48 | 5 | 14.05 | 0.75 | 43 | 1,343 | 259 | 2,251 |
| Ridgway | 82 | 53 | 69 | 4 | 0.67 | 3 | 14.91 | 0.24 | 52 | 1,110 | 325 | 1,969 |
| Stevenson Dam | 85 | 57 | 72 | 6 | 0.76 | 4 | 12.85 | -1.82 | 41 | 1,215 | 430 | 2,099 |
| Towanda | 91 | 60 | 73 | 4 | 0.77 | 5 | 14.09 | 2.72 | 38 | 1,173 | 152 | 2,064 |
| Wellsboro | 82 | 56 | 69 | 3 | 1.04 | 6 | 14.39 | 2.95 | 50 | 969 | 239 | 1,826 |
| Williamsport | 91 | 63 | 76 | 4 | 1.10 | 5 | 12.79 | -0.51 | 39 | 1,475 | 263 | 2,427 |
| Northeast | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Hawley | 89 | 59 | 73 | 6 | 0.50 | 3 | 21.08 | 8.33 | 43 | 1,060 | 216 | 1,920 |
| Wilkes-Barre/Sc | 91 | 62 | 76 | 4 | 0.33 | 4 | 11.12 | -1.28 | 38 | 1,406 | 260 | 2,345 |
| Susquehanna | 88 | 60 | 73 | 7 | 0.61 | 4 | 14.70 | 1.10 | 43 | 1,119 | 314 | 2,000 |
| West Central | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Butler | 83 | 60 | 72 | 3 | 3.44 | 3 | 17.01 | 3.46 | 47 | 1,306 | 251 | 2,200 |
| New Castle | 84 | 57 | 72 | 2 | 3.48 | 3 | 15.33 | 2.85 | 43 | 1,342 | 280 | 2,246 |
| Slippery Rock | 86 | 55 | 72 | 4 | 2.60 | 3 | 14.30 | 1.04 | 42 | 1,358 | 404 | 2,254 |
| Central | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Altoona/Blair | 83 | 62 | 73 | 3 | 1.05 | 5 | 11.36 | -1.13 | 47 | 1,437 | 283 | 2,376 |
| DuBois | 81 | 58 | 72 | 3 | 0.71 | 1 | 11.38 | -2.47 | 40 | 1,319 | 336 | 2,223 |
| Lewistown | 91 | 65 | 75 | 3 | 1.90 | 6 | 12.17 | -1.15 | 45 | 1,506 | 235 | 2,467 |
| Middletown | 91 | 67 | 77 | 2 | 1.44 | 5 | 10.44 | -2.59 | 49 | 1,637 | 191 | 2,622 |
| Prince Gallitzi | 83 | 56 | 71 | 4 | 1.02 | 5 | 14.67 | -0.95 | 48 | 1,243 | 345 | 2,146 |
| Selinsgrove | 90 | 65 | 75 | 3 | 0.92 | 5 | 15.49 | 2.10 | 39 | 1,378 | 201 | 2,316 |
| State College | 86 | 64 | 73 | 2 | 2.88 | 6 | 18.12 | 5.82 | 46 | 1,387 | 251 | 2,319 |
| East Central | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Allentown-Bethel | 92 | 66 | 77 | 4 | 0.49 | 4 | 13.92 | 0.63 | 39 | 1,533 | 221 | 2,502 |
| Lehighton | 85 | 65 | 74 | 2 | 1.20 | 4 | 17.74 | 4.41 | 42 | 1,278 | 25 | 2,221 |
| Matamoras | 91 | 64 | 75 | 5 | 0.45 | 4 | 18.43 | 4.34 | 43 | 1,290 | 162 | 2,220 |
| Mt_Pocono | 87 | 62 | 73 | 7 | 0.46 | 3 | 19.83 | 5.09 | 42 | 1,093 | 367 | 1,965 |
| Southwest | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Pittsburgh/Alle | 86 | 58 | 73 | 3 | 3.74 | 5 | 15.66 | 2.66 | 45 | 1,631 | 473 | 2,587 |
| Indiana_PA | 82 | 59 | 72 | 3 | 2.10 | 4 | 15.73 | 0.72 | 50 | 1,412 | 296 | 2,342 |
| Myersdale | 83 | 59 | 70 | 1 | 1.75 | 5 | 13.32 | -1.22 | 55 | 1,105 | 59 | 1,980 |
| Chalk_Hill | 84 | 54 | 68 | -4 | 3.32 | 5 | 17.45 | 3.14 | 53 | 1,145 | -108 | 2,021 |
| Pittsburgh Intl | 86 | 61 | 73 | 2 | 3.65 | 3 | 15.11 | 2.91 | 43 | 1,571 | 349 | 2,514 |
| Connellsville | 86 | 58 | 73 | 1 | 2.64 | 4 | 18.70 | 4.39 | 58 | 1,415 | 162 | 2,341 |
| Waynesburg | 86 | 57 | 72 | 2 | 2.36 | 5 | 15.21 | 2.04 | 48 | 1,356 | 235 | 2,274 |
| South Central | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Biglerville | 91 | 66 | 76 | 1 | 1.13 | 6 | 11.93 | -0.10 | 43 | 1,533 | 107 | 2,502 |
| Everett | 85 | 62 | 73 | 2 | 1.31 | 5 | 12.50 | 0.59 | 49 | 1,285 | 161 | 2,206 |
| Hanover | 90 | 65 | 76 | 2 | 1.23 | 6 | 11.95 | -0.08 | 48 | 1,519 | 93 | 2,485 |
| Harrisburg_AP | 90 | 68 | 78 | 3 | 1.00 | 4 | 10.91 | -2.12 | 49 | 1,638 | 185 | 2,628 |
| South Mountain | 84 | 61 | 71 | 0 | 0.96 | 6 | 14.69 | 2.20 | 47 | 1,224 | 77 | 2,146 |
| York | 90 | 67 | 76 | 2 | 1.23 | 6 | 10.37 | -2.95 | 45 | 1,555 | 133 | 2,509 |
| Southeast | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Green Lane | 91 | 68 | 77 | 5 | 1.57 | 4 | 17.71 | 4.79 | 42 | 1,508 | 267 | 2,477 |
| Hamburg | 91 | 66 | 76 | 5 | 0.79 | 3 | 14.51 | -1.16 | 46 | 1,484 | 364 | 2,449 |
| West_Chester | 92 | 67 | 77 | 3 | 2.44 | 6 | 20.44 | 5.87 | 47 | 1,497 | 88 | 2,459 |
| Lancaster | 89 | 68 | 76 | 3 | 1.12 | 4 | 14.22 | 0.76 | 44 | 1,520 | 205 | 2,480 |
| Neshaminy Falls | 91 | 70 | 79 | 6 | 1.84 | 4 | 17.50 | 2.64 | 43 | 1,604 | 292 | 2,586 |
| New Holland | 91 | 67 | 77 | 4 | 1.58 | 6 | 15.71 | 2.25 | 44 | 1,635 | 320 | 2,621 |
| Philadelphia | 94 | 70 | 81 | 5 | 1.22 | 4 | 17.83 | 4.78 | 42 | 1,866 | 335 | 2,874 |
| Philadelphia NE | 93 | 69 | 80 | 4 | 1.69 | 6 | 16.37 | 3.32 | 47 | 1,677 | 146 | 2,666 |
| Reading | 92 | 69 | 78 | 5 | 1.38 | 4 | 14.84 | 0.39 | 40 | 1,690 | 407 | 2,681 |
| Sellersville | 90 | 67 | 77 | 5 | 2.77 | 4 | 21.12 | 8.20 | 37 | 1,436 | 195 | 2,384 |
| Doylestown_AG | 92 | 70 | 79 | 6 | 1.94 | 4 | 21.12 | 6.26 | 39 | 1,606 | 294 | 2,584 |

DFN = Departure from normal (using 1961-90 normals period).

Precipitation (rainfall or melted snow or ice) and pan evaporation in inches.

Precipitation days = days with precipitation of .01 inch or more.

Air temperatures in degrees fahrenheit.

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REPORTERS COMMENTS, By County

Reporters are from Extension Service (Ext), Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), Farm Service Agency (FSA), Conservation District (CD), farmers, commodity specialists, or other knowledgeable individuals.

ADAMS County, Judy A. Behney

Adams County started the mornings this week off in the low 70's and daytime into the 80's. All days had clouds and some sun but not very good for hay making and wheat harvesting. Some areas of the county are getting downpours of 1-2 inches and other areas getting a shower and other areas getting no rain.

Corn is looking better and now starting to tassel in the county. Soybeans are looking good for the first crops soybeans and double-cropped soybeans after hay, barley and some wheat are emerging. Wheat harvest has been very slowed due to weather conditions and some straw has not been baled preventing producers from sowing soybeans due to weather. Haymaking has been interesting too because sun doesn't shine long enough to make dry hay and some areas that are getting rain are also having hay get wet.

Sweet corn is being harvested in the county along with other vegetables. Blueberries, raspberries, etc, are also being picked. Plums, apricots and peaches are also being harvested. Tart cherry harvest is about complete with some being decent crop and others not having much of a crop. Apples and peaches are sizing up nicely for this time of the year. Overall the producers are very busy trying to juggle what needs to be done depending on weather conditions.

ADAMS County, Lee Showalter

Apples continue to size. Peaches appear to be 10-12 days later than last year.

BUTLER County, L Fritz

Concern continues about wheat quality as harvest continues to be delayed.

CENTRE County, Dick Decker

Field work has been difficult, some dry days needed to catch up on hay making and grain harvesting. A total of 2.25 inches of rainfall for the week.

CLARION County, Tom Tanner

The hay making is back in full swing. Many acres of 1st crop still standing. Most crop farmers are spraying to control weeds. The wet weather has been hard on the winter wheat. Fungus has been a problem keeping under control

ERIE County, Nancy Lewis

Heavy rainfall and flooding have kept producers out of the fields to harvest hay, finish planting corn and soybeans and spraying crops already planted.

FRANKLIN County, Thomas Kerr

Showers and high humidity put a crimp in hay quality this week. Harvest of wheat is delayed somewhat by showers, and quality is suffering due to light test weight. Good weather for

fruit with no severe storms. Early season peaches are looking good.

INDIANA County, David B. Overdorff

Well it has been a decent but hot-humid and rainy week. Have not made any hay for 3 weeks. Could have mowed some last Friday for this Monday but the weather report still had 30% chance of showers for over the weekend. The oats will be ready I say sometime next week. Will try to cut some if weather permits. The corn has been really growing with the hot-humid weather we have been having. It looks a lot different this year at this time than last year when we had a mini drought. The soybeans are doing really well too with this weather. So if the rain can hold off this week we will be trying to make some hay. Hope everyone has a safe farming week.

LEBANON County, Charlene Zeigler

Most of the county received rain with some areas heavier than others. Total amounts of .8 of an inch to 2.5 inches were reported for last week. The corn is thriving in this weather. Pollination has begun. Soybean plants are looking good also. Wheat is being watched for problems from the weather and harvested where the combines can get in.

MERCER County, James P. Rust

We received 2.3 inches of rainfall this past week. Starting on Thursday farmers mowed hayed around the clock - first and second cutting. A lot of first cutting hay was not harvested due to 3 weeks of rainfall. Many late planted soybeans were sprayed with roundup this week. Wheat growers are getting ready to harvest wheat this week.

SNYDER County, William C. Sheaffer

Wheat harvest is near complete; however, it was difficult with the rain. Yield was above average. Oats are near ready to be harvested. Double crop beans have emerged in many places. The main activities for the week were harvesting, baling straw, and side dressing.

WESTMORELAND County, John Lohr

The wet and warm week made for excellent growing conditions. Wet fields have slowed corn side dressing and the final soybean herbicide application. Wheat quality will probably be reduced because of all the moisture at ripening and the delay in harvest.

YORK County, John Rowehl

Intermittent showers keep delaying the completion of wheat harvest; in need of a good soaking rain for corn.

PA Crop Progress for Week Ending July 14, 2013

| Crop | Current Week | Last Year | 5-Year Average |
|-----------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| | <i>Percent</i> | <i>Percent</i> | <i>Percent</i> |
| Corn, silk | 23 | 50 | 31 |
| Corn average height, inches | 62 | 66 | 58 |
| Barley, harvested | 91 | 99 | 96 |
| Wheat, ripe | 94 | 97 | 97 |
| Wheat, harvested | 45 | 93 | 77 |
| Oats, turning yellow | 50 | 83 | 49 |
| Oats, ripe | 8 | 35 | 16 |
| Alfalfa, 2nd cutting | 55 | 93 | 81 |
| Alfalfa, 3rd cutting | 13 | 27 | 14 |
| Timothy clover, 1st cutting | 93 | 98 | 96 |
| Timothy clover, 2nd cutting | 7 | 63 | 31 |
| Peaches, harvested | 7 | 34 | 14 |

PA Crop Condition for Week Ending July 14, 2013

| Crop | Very Poor | Poor | Fair | Good | Excellent |
|------------------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| | <i>Percent</i> | <i>Percent</i> | <i>Percent</i> | <i>Percent</i> | <i>Percent</i> |
| Corn | 0 | 2 | 13 | 51 | 34 |
| Wheat | 2 | 9 | 22 | 45 | 22 |
| Oats | 0 | 1 | 16 | 61 | 22 |
| Soybeans | 0 | 0 | 19 | 65 | 16 |
| Alfalfa and alfalfa mixtures stand | 0 | 4 | 23 | 53 | 20 |
| Timothy clover stand | 0 | 2 | 18 | 64 | 16 |
| Quality of hay made | 0 | 18 | 47 | 24 | 11 |
| Pasture | 0 | 2 | 24 | 46 | 28 |
| Peaches | 0 | 0 | 20 | 60 | 20 |
| Apples | 0 | 0 | 10 | 50 | 40 |

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